

HIGH TORQUE FAILSAFE VALVE OPERATOR

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A fluid valve operator for moving a moveable valve element such as a disc (14) that is pressed forcefully against a surface of a valve frame (12). The valve operator includes first and second electric gear reduction motors (22, 24) that each has a movable driving member such as a rack (34, 36) that moves against a handle (20) of the valve element to move the valve element to a connect or disconnect position. Each motor withdraws its driving member from the valve member handle after moving the valve member. A default mechanism (90) moves the valve element handle to a preselected one of the positions, such as the disconnect position, when pressure of a fluid falls below a preselected level.